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WIGSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

for the Year 1954.

R.W. Kind, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Area</u> (In acres)	3432
<u>Number of inhabited houses (at 31st. March 1955)</u> according to rate books	5071
(There are in addition 145 houses combined with shops.	
<u>Number of Council Houses occupied</u>	1030
<u>Rateable Value 1st. April, 1954</u>	£82,731
<u>Sum represented by a penny rate</u>	1953/4 (Actual) £315 1954/5 (Probable) £333

POPULATION:

1954 Registrar General's estimate 16,180

TABLE showing the Registrar General's estimate of the changes in population during the past ten years : -

1945 - - - -	13,340	1950 - - - -	15,630
1946 - - - -	14,230	1951 - - - -	16,240
1947 - - - -	14,530	1952 - - - -	15,470
1948 - - - -	14,780	1953 - - - -	15,720
1949 - - - -	14,980	1954 - - - -	16,180

BIRTHS:

			1954	1953
<u>Live Births:</u>	Legitimate -	- Male	145	126
	-	- Female	142	126
		Total	287	252
Illegitimate-	-	- Male	2	2
	-	- Female	1	5
		Total	3	7
Total Live Births:		Male	147	128
		Female	143	131
		Total	290	259
<u>Stillbirths:</u>	Legitimate -	- Male	2	3
	-	- Female	3	3
		Total	5	6
Illegitimate-	-	- Male	Nil	Nil
	-	- Female	Nil	Nil
		Total	Nil	Nil
Total Stillbirths:		Male	2	3
		Female	3	3
		Total	5	6

Birthrate per 1,000 estimate population :

Wigston-	-	-	-	-	17.9	16.4
England and Wales-	-	-	-	-	15.2	15.5

Stillbirths rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths 16.9 22.6

TABLE showing the changes in the total live births and in the birth rates during the past ten years :-

Year	Total Live Births Wigston	Birth Rates (per 1,000 population)		
		Wigston	Leicester-shire	England and Wales
1945	254	19.0	18.8	16.1
1946	319	22.4	20.6	19.1
1947	359	24.7	21.2	20.5
1948	331	22.39	18.84	17.9
1949	283	19.0	17.35	16.7
1950	253	16.1	16.17	15.8
1951	262	16.07	16.02	15.5
1952	280	18.9	15.67	15.3
1953	259	16.4	15.43	15.5
1954	290	17.9	14.51	15.2

DEATHS :					1954	1953
Total <u>Number of Deaths</u> :						
Male - - - -					82	61
Female - - - -					70	72
Total- - - -					152	133
<u>Death Rate per 1,000</u> extimated population :						
Wigston - - -					9.3	8.4
England and Vales -					11.3	11.4

TABLE SHOWING changes in the total number of deaths and in the death rates during the past ten years :

Year	Total Deaths Wigston	Death Rates (per 1,000 population)		
		Wigston	Leicestershire	England and Wales
1945	146	10.9	11.1	11.4
1946	157	11.1	10.7	11.5
1947	164	11.3	11.3	12.0
1948	147	9.9	9.77	10.8
1949	140	9.4	10.68	11.7
1950	145	9.2	10.28	11.6
1951	172	10.5	10.74	12.5
1952	161	10.4	10.06	11.3
1953	133	8.5	10.05	11.4
1954	152	9.3	10.29	11.3


There were no deaths from puerperal causes.

					1954	1953	
<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :</u>							
<u>No. of deaths</u> :	Legitimate	-	-	Male	3	2	
		-	-	Female	2	7	
				Total	5	9	
	Illegitimate	-	-	Male	Nil	Nil	
		-	-	Female	Nil	Nil	
				Total	Nil	Nil	
Total Infant Deaths				-	-	5	9
<u>Infant mortality per 1,000 live births :</u>							
Wigston				-	-	17.2	34.7
England and Wales				-	-	25.5	26.8

TABLE showing deaths of infants under one year and infant mortality rates during the past ten years :

Year	Total Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000 live births.		
		Wigston	Leicestershire	England and Wales
1945	10	39	36	46
1946	14	44	36	43
1947	22	64	43	41
1948	17	51.3	32.2	34
1949	7	24.7	27.1	32
1950	7	27.6	27.0	29.8
1951	5	19.0	25.1	29.6
1952	11	39.2	26.5	27.6
1953	9	34.7	28.0	26.8
1954	5	17.2	28.1	25.5

						1954	1953
<u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :</u>							
No. of Deaths	Legitimate	—	—	Male	3	2	
					Female	7	
					Total	9	
Illegitimate					Nil	Nil	



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Causes of Death.

<u>Registrar General's Classification.</u>	1954			1953		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory - -	3	-	3	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease - - -	-	-	-	1	-	1
4. Diphtheria - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Measles - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic disease -	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach -	3	-	3	-	-	-
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	-	2	3	2	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast- -	-	2	2	-	4	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus- -	-	1	1	-	2	2
14. Malignant neoplasms, lymphatic and other. - - - - -	6	5	11	7	11	18
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
16. Diabetes - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system - - - - -	9	8	17	9	13	22
18. Coronary disease, angina - -	11	16	27	4	6	10
19. Hypertension with heart disease-	5	1	6	2	-	2
20. Other heart disease - - -	11	12	23	15	13	28
21. Other circulatory disease - -	2	5	7	2	3	5
22. Influenza - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia - - - - -	6	5	11	3	1	4
24. Bronchitis - - - - -	4	-	4	2	1	3
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system - - - - -	1	2	3	1	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum -	3	1	4	-	1	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis - -	1	1	2	1	2	3
29. Hyperplasia of the prostate -	1	-	1	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations - -	2	-	2	3	3	6
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases - - - - -	8	8	16	4	9	13
33. Motor vehicle accidents - -	2	-	2	1	1	2
34. All other accidents - - -	1	2	3	1	-	1
35. Suicide - - - - -	-	-	-	1	-	1
36. Homicide and operations of war -	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total deaths, all causes - -	82	70	152	61	72	133

CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

IMMUNIZATION :

Immunization facilities are provided free under the National Health Service Act. 202 children under the age of six years received their primary immunization during the year whilst 167 children received further treatment to maintain their immunity.

TUBERCULOSIS :

There were 3 deaths from this disease during the year under review.

New cases are summarized as follows :

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	5	7
Non-pulmonary ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	2	5	7

In addition to these cases 10 further cases of Pulmonary and 1 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis came to reside within the District.

The total number of cases residing within the District at the close of the year was as follows :

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	68	46	114
Non-pulmonary ..	3	8	11
TOTALS	71	54	125

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (See Table on page 6)

Infectious disease presented no problem during 1954.

In addition to the cases of measles, whooping cough and scarlet fever tabulated on page 6 there were two cases of pneumonia and two cases of dysentery notified.

TABLE showing the monthly distribution of certain infectious diseases.

	Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
1953	Measles	51	234	116	12	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	416
	Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	7	11	11	36
	Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	4

1954	Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	2	7
	Whooping Cough	2	3	3	4	1	-	2	1	7	1	7	1	32
	Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3

The Naional Assistance Act, 1948 :
and National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

Application was made on two occasions to the Court under Section 47 of this Act for orders to remove elderly women to hospital.

In each case the application was successful and the persons named were removed to hospital and benefited thereby.

Four other elderly persons were admitted to hospital voluntarily in consequence of persuasive methods proving effective.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

For the following information I am indebted to Mr. F.B. Ashbridge, Sanitary Inspector, whose work during the year under review it represents.

Water Supply.

Mains water is supplied by the Leicester Corporation and is piped direct into 5,156 houses to serve a population of 16,070. A further 49 houses having 160 occupants receive the same water from standpipes. The quality of the water is entirely satisfactory but the pressure of the supply varies considerably in different districts and in the same district at different times.

6 Houses rely upon well water and represent a population of 20. One sample was taken during the year and found unsatisfactory. One well was closed and a further well cleansed.

Sewage Disposal.

With the exception of parts of East Wigston the District appears to be adequately sewered. Sewage disposal is at the Council's Works in Countesthorpe Road. The extension of this works has received Ministry approval and may be expected to commence in the near future.

There are in the area no earthclosets, privies or ashpits. 13 cesspools are cleaned fortnightly by Council employees whilst 23 pail closets, mostly chemical, are similarly dealt with at weekly intervals.

Public Cleansing.

The collection of refuse is carried out at approximately weekly intervals whilst trade wastes are collected from the 60 premises producing these.

The salvaging of ferrous and non-ferrous metals continued as did the collection of waste paper.

Kitchen waste is no longer collected as the obligation to provide this service ceased in 1954.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area :

Total number of complaints received during the year -	-	209
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered-	-	445

Total number of inspections made :

	<u>Inspections</u>
Animal keeping	70
Bakehouses	15
Dairies	60
Drainage works	141
Dwelling-houses (all purposes)	686
Food premises	122
Rodent control	140
Refuse collection and disposal	411
Schools	Nil
Shops	86
Slaughter-house and meat inspection	112
Tents, vans, sheds, etc.	12
Verminous premises	12
Water supplies	18
Workshops	40
Other inspections	258
Smoke observations	22
	<hr/>
Total inspection	2,205

Notices served during the year :

<u>Preliminary :</u>	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Public Health</u>
Outstanding on January 1st. 1954	4	9
Issued during the year	12	425
Complied with during the year	16	420
Statutory action necessary	Nil	2
Outstanding on December 31st. 1954	Nil	14

Two Statutory Notices were served during the year, both of which were complied with.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

A full time trained rodent operator is employed.

All Council property is treated regularly and public sewers twice yearly. Householders are offered a free service.

Smoke Abatement.

22 observations were made on alleged smoke nuisances. It was not found necessary to take any formal action as co-operation with the factories concerned served to effect the remedies.

Shops Act, 1950.

5 defects in sanitary conveniences were found during the year and were remedied.

2 further defects in washing facilities were found which together with 2 defects in ventilation were also remedied.

Camping Sites.

The 8 dwelling vans in the area include 7 temporary vans which are owned by travelling showmen and which are laid up in this District for the winter.

12 inspections were made. No conditions were found which required any action.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Under this Act 2 premises were licensed. 8 inspections were made during the year, no contraventions of the Act being discovered.

Rag Flock & other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

Under this Act 2 premises are registered for the purpose of upholstering. No contraventions of regulations have been found.

Eradication of Vermin.

8 houses were found to require treatment to eradicate fleas and bed bugs. 4 of the infested properties were owned by this Council.

Disinfestation was satisfactorily carried out in every case by stripping and treating with gammexane and other proprietary insecticides applied under pressure. The occupiers were advised of the steps necessary to prevent recurrences.

THE INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Ice Cream.

52 premises are registered for sale of ice cream.

37 samples were taken during the year, 24 proving to be Grade one 11 Grade two and 2 Grade three.

Milk: Dairies & Distributors.

i) Dairies:

Number on Register	2
Number of inspections made	10
Number of contraventions found	Nil
Number of contraventions remedied	Nil

ii) Distributors:

Number on Register	32
Number of inspections made	50
Number of contraventions found	2
Number of contraventions remedied	2

Milk Sampling.

<u>Designated Milk:</u> Total number of samples taken for bacteriological examination	64
Number found satisfactory	64

<u>Ordinary Milk:</u> Total number of samples taken for bacteriological examination	33
Number found satisfactory	30

Biological Examination of Milk.

The quarterly examination of milk produced and sold in this District, made with a view to detecting the presence of living tubercle bacilli, and Brucella abortus was continued.

6 such samples were taken, all proving satisfactory.

Milk, (Special Designations) (Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

<u>Licences issued :</u> 1 Dealers, Pasteurised	23
Sterilised	10
2 Supplementary, Pasteurised	2
Sterilised	1

Milk, (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

<u>Licences issued:</u> 1 Dealers, Tuberculin Tested	6
2 Supplementary, Tuberculin Tested	2

Meat and other Foods.

2 slaughter houses have been licenced and in these 1807 animals were killed. 1765 were examined at the time of slaughter. In 11 infection with tuberculosis was found and in a further 9 other diseases necessitated partial condemnation.

Number of Inspections.

Knackers Yards	12
Meat Shops and Stores	28
Places where food other than meat is kept or prepared for sale	110

H O U S I N G

1. New Houses.

Number of applications for council houses at the end of the year	536
Programme of new council houses:	
Erected during the year	122
Under construction at end of year	62
Number of houses erected during the year by private enterprise	169
Number of houses in course of construction at the end of the year by private enterprise.	157
Total number of post-war houses completed by -	
a) Local Authority	648
b) Private Enterprise	379

2. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	216
Number of inspections made for the purpose	454
b) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human inhabitation	42

3. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice.

Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its officers	145
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4. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

a) <u>Under Sections 9, 10, 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
i) Notices served in respect of dwelling houses requiring repairs	Nil
ii) Dwelling houses rendered fit by owners	Nil
b) <u>Under Public Health Acts.</u>	
i) Notices served in respect of dwelling houses requiring defects to be remedied	2
ii) Dwelling houses in which defects were remedied by the owners	2

5. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

The extent of overcrowding continues to remain unknown.

6. Demolition and Closing Orders.

3 houses were closed in pursuance of undertakings given by the owners under Sect. 11, Housing Act 1936 and a total of 10 persons was displaced in consequence.

7. Housing Act 1949.

10 applications were received for reconditioning grants.
3 of these were accepted.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. **INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c Line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7).
			Inspec- tions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)	
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	7	22	1	Nil	1
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	105	88	4	Nil	2
(3) Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority + (excluding out-workers premises)	3	8	18	2	Nil	3
Total		120	128	7	Nil	

2. **CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND**

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which pro- secutions were in- stituted	M/c line No.
		Found	Remedied	Referred			
				To H.M. Inspec- tor	By H.M. Inspec- tor		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	4	2	2	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2.).	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temper- ature (S.3.)	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate venti- lation (S.4.)	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)							
a) Insufficient	9	1	1	—	2	—	9
b) Unsuitable or defective	10	3	3	—	—	—	10
c) Not separate for sexes	11	1	1	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not includ- ing offences relating to Outwork)	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
Total	60	7	7	—	2	—	60

+ i.e. Electrical Stations (Section 103(1)), Institutions (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	M/c line No.	Section 110			Section 111		Prosecu- tions	M/c line No.
		No. of out- workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prose- cutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some prem- ises	Notice Served		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Wearing apparel Making etc.	13	141	-	-	-	-	-	13

APPENDIX "A"

I am indebted to Mr. G.J. Wootton, Surveyor to the Wigston Urban District Council for the following report :-

RAINFALL IN 1953.

at Wigston U.D.C. Sewage Farm, Countesthorpe
in the County of Leicestershire

Rain
Gauge

{ Diameter of funnel: 8 inches
{ Height of top above ground: 9 inches.
{ Height of ground above sea level: 256.85 ft.

Month	Total Depth	Greatest Fall in 24 Hours		Number of Days with .01 in or more	
		<u>Inches</u>	<u>Date</u>		
January	1.05	.39	21	13	7
February	2.42	.38	10	21	15
March	1.93	.48	26	14	10
April	.40	.14	1	6	4
May	2.06	.71	29	20	11
June	2.42	.53	13	15	11
July	2.76	.56	17	19	14
August	3.69	.44	24	20	20
September	2.17	.41	20	19	16
October	2.85	.55	24	21	13
November	4.98	.87	6	24	18
December	2.45	.72	9	21	10
Total	29.18			213	139

